Department of Music
University of Alberta

In Tune

Words on Music

department of Music

University of Alberta
Edmonton, Canada

Message from the Chair:

The Department of Music concert season got off to a splendid start early in September with the inaugural concert starring the new Hamburg Steinway. Both the piano and the players sparkled, and a large audience seemed to enjoy what they heard. Since then the first Encounters concert has come and gone. This may be the prejudice of an old choral conductor, but in my opinion the *Liebeslieder* waltzes provided us with some of the most enchanting moments to be heard in Con Hall for a long time. And there is more to come.

Congratulations to Werner & Inge Israel for providing a name for this newsletter. It was good to have so many people respond. The Israels also contributed my personal favourite, "Chordially Yours," but it didn't make the short list.

Faculty members working in the graduate program of the Department have been very active in the past few months. Michael Redshaw defended his doctoral thesis successfully at the end of September; we welcome Dr Redshaw to the ranks of our alumni. Three MMus students have also defended their theses in the past two months: John Doerksen in theory, Andrew Zinck in musicology, and Kenneth Chen in ethnomusicology.

Do let us know if you have suggestions or comments about the contents of In Tune.

Dr Wesley Berg

Name The Newsletter: Results

The response from our readers was gratifying. As you can see by the list below the suggestions alternated between being serious contenders and downright silly. It was great fun reading them!

Aviso, Muses, Musings, Pronunicamento, Esoterica, Critique, Bravura, Nuance, Libretto, Intervals, Suspended Fourths, Da Capo, Aria, Independent Suspension, Resolutions, Resolving Dissonances, Consonance, Assonance, Here's to You, Gin Double Tonic Complex, What's Happened Sol Fa?, 4/4, A Tempo, Graphic, Golden Sequence, Out of Haydn, Berg's Bag, Clef Palette, Synemmenon, The Voice Exchange, Vox Humana, Voces Humanae, Zwischensatz, Prima Vista, Pastiche, Notes from Music, Muslet, Singing Pages, Music Notes, Harmonies, Resonance, Encore, Bravi, Passamezzo, MUSings (Music and Things), Adventures in Music, Distinguished Performances, In Collaboration, Potpourri, Kaleidescope, Say it with Music Series, Lectures and Music Tabloid, Keynote, Chordially Yours, In Tune, Tune In, Chime In, Music Maestro, Sound Spectrum, Musically Speaking, Words on Music, Sound Waves, Swinging Notes, Supersonic, Trumpet (call), The Muse (or A Muse), Aural Fixations, Notes, Music Notes, The Gazette, The Tune Belt,No Name, Doe-Rae-Mee, Gleanings, Vibrations, Music Plus, Music Network, The Frame, Sonor Borealis, Sounding Board, Tessitura, Applause, Pedal Point, Prime Tone, Castrati Anonymous, Noteworthy, Note Scattering,

The final decision *(drum roll please!)*:

IN TUNE: Words on Music

IN TUNE was suggested by Werner & Inge Israel. **Words on Music** was contributed by Dr William H Street of the Department of Music. In appreciation the Israels will receive tickets to Paul Badura-Skoda's performance with the ESO on February 1, 1991, invitations to a post-concert reception, and a cd recording by Badura-Skoda. Dr Street will receive a pat on the back for his contribution.

Thanks to all for the great suggestions.

Faculty Activities:

Alexandra Munn was selected the 1990 *YWCA Woman of the Year* in Arts and Culture. . . **Marnie Giesbrecht** and **William H Street,** performed for the annual convocation of the National Convention of the Royal Canadian College of Organists on Aug. 15th in Convocation Hall. . . **Garth Hobden** recently had two electro-acoustic compositions premiered: *Gia Cries* at the U of Colorado, Denver; and *Triceratops,* on the Encounters Series at the U of A. He also produced a recording for the Camrose Lutheran University College Choir and is currently working on recordings for Harold Wiens and for the brass trio, Triceratops. . . **Robert de Frece** presented a two day workshop for the Greater Cleveland Chapter of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association, in October. He also presented five sessions at the National Conference of the American Orff-Schulwerk Association in Denver, Colorado, and was a guest clinician at the annual conference of the New York Music Educators Association, in November. . . **Violet Archer** received the *1990 Alberta Lifetime Achievement Award,* Sept. 18 during the Bravo Alberta concert held at Calgary's Jack Singer Hall. Dr Archer travelled to Kiev, Ukraine in October for a performance of her work, *Evocations,* at the Festival of Music by Ukrainian & International Composers. . . **Stéphane Lemelin** performed as soloist and chamber musician at the Festival International de Musique de Montreal in September. In October, Dr Lemelin performed at the Canadian Embassy in Washington, and as soloist with the Peterborough Symphony in Ontario. He will be touring with the Manfred Trio in the Maritimes as part of the Debut Atlantic Series in November. . . **Wesley Berg** and Jonathan Bayley (MMus, U of A) have had an article on WJ Hendra (continued)

Faculty Activities continued:

(an Edmonton musician and teacher, 1906-66), published in the August 1990 issue of Alberta History. . . In November, **Leonard Ratzlaff** and **Debra Ollikkala** will take part as chorus members in a performance of Brahms' *Ein deutsches Requiem* under Robert Shaw in Carnegie Hall. The concert is part of the Hall's 100th Anniversary celebrations. . . The world premiere of **Malcolm Forsyth's** *Five Songs from Atlantic Canada* with Rosemary Landry, Maureen Forrester and the Vancouver Symphony Orchestra was recorded by the CBC for broadcast. His *Symphony No 2* was performed by the Vancouver Chamber Orchestra under the direction of Mario Bernardi. A Calgary performance of Dr Forsyth's *Concerto for Piano and Orchestra* with Jane Coop and the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, Mario Bernardi conducting, was recorded for release on the CBC SM5000 series. . . **Fordyce Pier,** with pianist Janet Scott-Hoyt (BMus, MMus, U of A), will present Canadian music for trumpet and piano in three locations around Canada Music Week. They will perform at Uni-Fest at the U of Saskatchewan, Nov. 16, at the U of A on Nov. 19, and at the U of Calgary as part of the Calgary Festival of Canadian Music. . . **Regula Qureshi** and **Christopher Lewis** will be presenting papers to the Society for Ethnomusicology, Society for Music Theory, and the American Musicological Society joint conference in November in Oakland, California. . .Richard Troeger will be the harpsichord soloist with the Kensington Sinfonia for concerts in Calgary on Nov. 3 and Lethbridge on Nov. 22. He will be premiering a work for harpsichord by Marcia Epstein at the U of Calgary on Nov. 18.

Program Previews:

Friday, at 8 pm
November 2, 1990
Convocation Hall

NICHOLAS ARTHUR KILBURN MEMORIAL CONCERT featuring **Joseph Swensen, violinist** and **Yuri Funahashi, pianist.** Program will include works by Arvo Pärt, Kenneth Frazelle, Claude Debussy and César Franck. Tickets: $1.00.

Sunday, at 8 pm
November 4, 1990
Convocation Hall

ACADEMY STRINGS CONCERT, Norman Nelson, director Program will include:Vivaldi *Sinfonia for Strings;* Haydn *Symphony No. 57 in D* and Tchaikovsky *Serenade for Strings.* Tickets: $5 adults & $3 students/seniors.

Tuesday, at 3:30 pm
November 6, 1990
Rm 2-32 Fine Arts Bldg.

LECTURE SERIES: SEM/SMT Preview.
Regula Qureshi - "The *Qawwali* and the Puzzle of Time in Indian-Muslim Music".
Christopher Lewis - "The Mind's Chronology: Narrative Times and Harmonic Disruption in Post-Romantic Music".

Tuesday, at 8 pm
November 6, 1990
Convocation Hall

WIND CHAMBER MUSIC CONCERT, Fordyce Pier, director. Program will include music by **Strauss, Gabrieli,** and others. Performers: University Chamber Winds and guests. Free admission.

Monday, at 8 pm
November 19, 1990
Convocation Hall

FACULTY RECITAL: Fordyce Pier, trumpeter. Dr Pier will be accompanied by Janet Scott-Hoyt, pianist. Featuring Canadian music for trumpet and piano. Free admission.

Wednesday, at 8 pm
November 21,1990
Convocation Hall

SYMPHONIC WIND ENSEMBLE CONCERT, Fordyce Pier, director. The program will feature music by University of Alberta composers: **Violet Archer, Malcolm Forsyth and Alan Bell,** as well as *Songs of Abelard* by **Dello Joio,** with soloist Harold Wiens, baritone. Tickets: $5 adults & $3 students/seniors.

Thursday, at 3:30 pm
November 22, 1990
Rm 2-32 Fine Arts Bldg.

CANADA MUSIC WEEK LECTURE: Violet Archer. "Folk Song as Creative Stimulus: *Evocations* for Two Pianos and Orchestra"

Program Previews continued

Friday, at 8 pm
November 23, 1990
Convocation Hall

FACULTY RECITAL: Marnie Giesbrecht, organist. The program will feature *Introduction, Passacaglia and Fugue* by **Healey Willan** as well as works by **L Farnham, F Morel, B Hambraeus, B Cabena, V Archer, J Kloppers** and **G Krapf.** Free admission.

Saturday, at 8 pm
November 24, 1990
Convocation Hall

OPERA WORKSHOP PERFORMANCE: Alan Ord, director. Excerpts from operas by **Smetana, Donizetti, Massenet, Beethoven,** and **Poulenc.** Free admission.

Friday, November 30 and
Sunday, December 2, 1990
at 8 pm
Convocation Hall

CONCERT CHOIR & MADRIGAL SINGERS, Leonard Ratzlaff & Debra Ollikkala, directors. The program will feature a joint performance of **Respighi's** *Laud to the Nativity,* Leonard Ratzlaff, conductor. Also included on the program will be works by **Schütz, Kodaly, Palestrina,** and **Ruth Watson.**
Tickets: $5 adults & $3 students/seniors.

Saturday, at 8 pm
December 1, 1990
Convocation Hall

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA CONCERT, Norman Nelson, director. Program: **Berlioz** *Roman Carnival Overture,* **Beethoven** *Symphony No. 4* and **Beethoven** *Piano Concerto No. 4* with soloist Stéphane Lemelin. Tickets: $5 adults, $3 students/seniors.

Sunday, at 3 pm
December 2, 1990
Convocation Hall

CONCERT BAND CONCERT, William H Street, director. Program: works by **Berlioz, Giovannini, Grainger, Holst, Jenkins** and **Wagner.** Tickets: $5 adults, $3 students/seniors.

Monday, at 8 pm
December 3, 1990
Convocation Hall

STAGE BANDS I & II IN CONCERT, Neil Corlett and Derek Stoll, directors. An evening of Big Band Jazz.
Tickets: $5 adults, $3 students/seniors.

Wednesday & Thursday,
December 5 & 6, 1990
at 8 pm
Convocation Hall

STUDENT CHAMBER MUSIC PERFORMANCES. Students registered in Music X39 form various chamber music ensembles which present a public concert at the end of each term as part of their course work. Free admission.

November 1990

Concerts & Events

department of Music

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 2:00pm -5:00 Masterclass with JOSEPH SWENSEN, violinist.	2 8:00pm *Nicholas Arthur Kilburn Memorial Concert-1990 with violinist, JOSEPH SWENSEN	3
4 8:00pm *Concert-Academy Strings, Norman Nelson, director	5	6 3:30pm Lecture: Regula Qureshi and Christopher Lewis 8:00pm *Concert - Wind Chamber Music, F. Pier, director	7 12:10pm to 12:45-Student Organ Recital-Convocation Hall	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19 8:00pm Faculty Recital - Fordyce Pier, trumpeter	20	21 8:00pm *Concert-Symphonic Wind Ensemble, F.Pier, director	22 3:30pm Canada Music Week Lecture - Violet Archer	23 8:00pm Faculty Recital- Marnie Giesbrecht, organist	24 8:00pm Opera Workshop Performance - Alan Ord, director
CANADA MUSIC WEEK						
25	26	27	28	29	30 8:00pm *Concert - Madrigal Singers & Concert Choir	

EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

December 1990

Concerts & Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 8:00pm *Concert - Chamber Orchestra, N. Nelson, director
2 3:00pm *Concert- Concert Band, William H Street, director 8:00pm *Concert - Madrigal Singers & Concert Choir	3 8:00pm *Concert - Stage Bands I &II	4	5 12:10pm to 12:45- Student Organ Recital, Convocation Hall 8:00pm Student Chamber Music Performances Last day of classes- Term I	6 8:00pm Student Chamber Music Performances	7	8
9	10	11	12 Hanukah	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25 Christmas	26 Boxing Day	27	28	29
30	31					

department of Music

EVENTS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

General Concert Information:

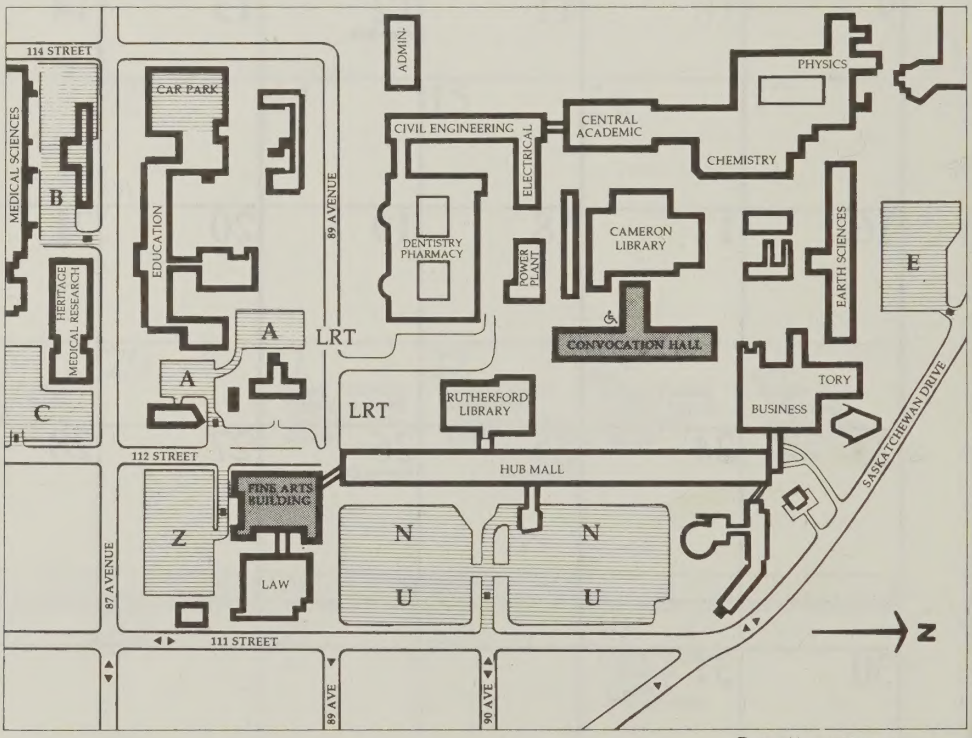
Unless otherwise noted, all concerts take place in Convocation Hall, Arts Building on the U of A campus. Wheelchair access is from the south-west side loading door of the Arts Building. Although many of our events are presented free of charge, an admission fee is in effect for some concerts as indicated by an asterisk (*) on the calendar of events. Tickets are $5 for adults and $3 for students and seniors unless otherwise indicated. Advance tickets are available from the Music General Office, 3-82 Fine Arts Building, during office hours *(8:30 am to noon and 1:00 to 4:30 pm Monday-Friday)*.

In most cases, tickets are also available at the door immediately prior to the performance. Convocation Hall has no reserved seating.

PLEASE NOTE: All concerts and events are subject to change without notice. Please call 492-3263 to confirm concerts, (after office hours a recorded message will inform you of any additions or deletions to our schedule).

IN TUNE: Words on Music is published bi-monthly by the University of Alberta, Department of Music, 3-82 Fine Arts Building, Edmonton, T6G 2C9, (403)492-3263. Letters from our readers are welcome. Editor-in-Chief: Wesley Berg, Managing Editor: Brenda Musselman.

Campus Map



Designed by L.C Mwenesi
M.V.A. Department of Art and Design

-CONVOCATION HALL/ARTS BUILDING
-FINE ARTS BUILDING

-PARKING AREAS

LRT -LRT CONSTRUCTION

Organists News

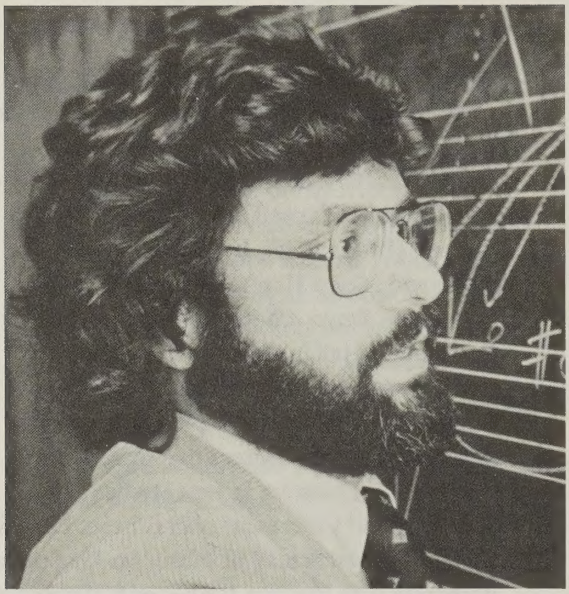
The organ students of the Department of Music and their professor Marnie Giesbrecht, attended the *Calgary International Organ Festival*, held in October. The festival surrounded the events of the *First International Organ Competition* at Calgary's Jack Singer Hall. The week was filled with concerts and workshops given by a distinguished group of organists who were the jurors for the competition. One member of the class, **Glen Segger,** was chosen to be one of five Canadian organists to play in a masterclass on October 17th given by Russell Saunders, Eastman School of Music, Rochester, NY.

A series of six noon-hour student organ recitals are scheduled for the following Wednesdays: November 7, December 5, 1990, and February 6, March 13 and April 10, 1991. These recitals are scheduled from 12:10 to 12:45 pm in Convocation Hall, Arts Building. Free admission.

Marnie Giesbrecht will perform a recital of Canadian organ music on November 23rd as part of Canada Music Week celebrations. The program will feature a major concert work by Healey Willan, *Introduction, Passacaglia and Fugue,* composed in 1916. Included will be selections from a 17th/18th Century manuscript, *Livre d'Orgue Montreal.* The program includes a mix of concert and liturgical organ works by Lynwood Farnham, Barrie Vabena, François Morel, Bengt Hambraeus and Edmonton-based composers Violet Archer, Jacobus Kloppers and Gerhard Krapf. The recital takes place at 8 pm in Convocation Hall. Free admission.

Student and Alumni Activities:

Judy Wishloff (BMus, 1985, BEd/AD, 1987) received an *Excellence in Teaching Award* from the Government of Alberta in September. . . PIANoMANIA, consisting of four talented pianists: **Grant Maxwell** (MMus,1984), **Haley Simons** (BMus,1985), **Ina Dykstra** (BMus, 1978) and **Moira Hopfe** (BMus,1983), were part of the *Bravo Alberta* concert at Calgary's Jack Singer Hall in September. . . Former trumpet students, **Ross Hill** (BMus, 1986), **Larry Knopp,** and **Jens Lindemann** are all pursuing graduate degrees this year. Ross is working on a Masters in Jazz Studies at the New England Conservatory in Boston; Larry is at the Eastman School of Music working on his doctorate with Barbara Butler; and Jens, after winning several solo competitions last year, is working on his Master's degree at Juilliard with Mark Gould. . . **Alan Gilliland** (BMus, 1989) begins his second year of teaching trumpet, theory and jazz at Red Deer College. . . **Don Ross** (BMus, 1981) begins his second year at Grande Prairie Regional College as woodwind instructor and Band Director after earning his Master's in clarinet at Northwestern University. . . Also joining the staff at GPRC as a sabbatical replacement is **Colin Haydu** (BMus, 1986, MMus, U of North Texas, 1989). . . Violist **Glenn Archibald**, and former students **Michael Rose** and **Heather Meyers**, will be performing compositions by Archibald, Archer, and others, at the New England Conservatory in Boston, Nov. 12. . . Organist **Glen Segger** gave a recital on Aug. 15th in Convocation Hall as part of the national convention of the Royal Canadian College of Organists. . . **Kathleen Lotz** (BMus, 1988 MMus, 1990) is teaching part-time this year at Camrose Lutheran University College. . . . . .



Profile: Alfred Fisher

Imagine how wonderful it would be to sit around the coffee houses of Vienna in 1803, waiting for Beethoven to drop in. We could ask him how his work is getting along. Is the Eroica nearly finished? Isn't it a shame the Second Symphony didn't make much money...is his new apartment working out...has he thought about writing another piano concerto...can he get us a deal on tickets to next week's concert? What we wouldn't give to hobnob with a master composer! Yet, while Beethoven is gone, there are master composers breathing today's air, driving cars with Alberta licence plates; in fact, several of them are associated with the University of Alberta, and will be the subject of profile articles this year. Because composition is a terribly self-revealing act, the music of a good composer always reflects his or her own private world; the worlds of our composers are very different from Beethoven's, but they are both easier for us to understand, and more immediately relevant to our own lives.

Alfred Fisher's world began in 1942, when he was born in Boston. The foundation of his education was laid in New England, first in the schools of Boston, and then at Colby College in Maine. His higher degrees are from Boston University and Michigan State, and his university education includes successive majors in music history, piano performance, and composition. At the same time, he formed at a very young age, a powerful and lasting interest in Canada, particularly in the Canadian wilderness, and in 1969, he seized the opportunity to come North. He has been a Canadian ever since, teaching first in London, Ontario and then in Wolfville, Nova Scotia before moving to Edmonton in 1978; his passion for the North was partially slaked by a year spent in northern Saskatchewan before he went to the Maritimes. It is hard to imagine a more pronounced opposition of aggressively non-Jewish life-styles than those of the almost cloistered halls of Colby College--the atmosphere that Tom Lehrer characterized as "Ivy-covered professors in ivy-covered halls"--and the Canadian True North. Yet both highly civilized erudition, and gritty down-to-earth humanity are part of Fisher's character and his music--and both erudition and practicality are crucial components of the Jewish heritage that has been for the past decade or so an increasingly central part of his life and of his music.

Fisher's music often directly remembers that heritage. As he puts it, "In a cosmology in which morality, religion, and culture are one with history, remembering what happened, and why, is indeed a sacred duty." The artistic performance of that duty is effected not only in the religious connotations of a psalm setting, the remembrance of images of the Holocaust in a song cycle, and the use of Talmudic texts or Yiddish folklore to evoke the European diaspora, but also by the composition of music whose intellectual

Alfred Fisher continued

framework derives from the great tradition of Jewish thought. His clarinet quintet, "Diary of a War Artist," which was premiered on the CBC national network last October, is typical of his ability to blend materials from his cultural past with explicitly Canadian sources (here, the tune "Un Canadien errant") into music of a marvelously expressive and powerful beauty. (The work will be aired later this year on CBC TV.)

Fisher was on sabbatical leave in 1989-90, following a stint of three years as Chair of the Department of Music. The first direct fruits of his leave will be the piece "Tour de France" for alto saxophone and piano to be premiered later this year by U of A saxophone professor, William H Street. Even Fisher's family, which is musical to the last soul, finds its way into his composition--he has just finished a set of choir pieces set to texts by his son Benjamin, 9. Ben also plays the piano, and his sister Laura is learning the violin, so presumably it will not be long before the violin-piano duet for young fingers becomes a staple item in Fisher's catalogue.

All aspects of musical activity intrigue and delight Alfred Fisher, and he has contributed in many ways to the musical life of Edmonton. He can play chamber music in Convocation Hall, or vamp an accompaniment that would fly in any '20s roadhouse. He is deeply committed to teaching composition and music theory, and to promoting the performance of new music at the University. But most central to his existence as an artist is his own music--sometimes challenging, but always provocative, and always infinitely rewarding for the careful listener. Next time you meet him at the local coffee house, ask him how his new house is working out, and whether the new piano piece is almost finished. . .

(Next issue will profile composer Violet Archer)

The John Newman Memorial Scholarship for Performance of Contemporary Music

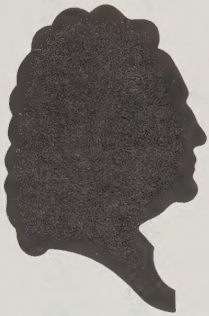
John Newman was a gifted clarinetist who graduated from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Music degree in clarinet performance in 1985. John was killed in a motor vehicle accident involving an impaired driver in January of 1988.

Created by family and friends, the John Newman Memorial Scholarship seeks to recognize students in the second, third, or fourth years of their BMus or BMus (Honors) degrees who express initiative and exceptional accomplishment in the performance of contemporary music, an area in which John excelled. One scholarship will be awarded each year beginning in 1991. Candidates will be selected by the Department of Music Scholarship Committee.

The Harry Farmer Graduate Scholarship in Music Theory

The Harry Farmer Graduate Scholarship in Music Theory was created in 1987 by members of the Edmonton Mayfield Rotary Club. Dedicated to the memory of Harry Farmer, a well-known and respected Edmonton musician who appeared regularly on local television and radio programs, this scholarship acknowledges the achievements of incoming graduate students in the field of music theory.

The John Newman and Harry Farmer scholarships benefitted from the Province of Alberta's matching grants program which augmented the original donations with one-for-one or two-for-one matching dollars.



TRI BACH

ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

PAUL BADURA-SKODA

Tri-BACH Artist-in-Residence, January 28 through February 6, 1991.

Schedule of Public Events:

Tuesday, January 29	Lecture, 8 pm, Convocation Hall
Wednesday, January 30	Chamber Music Coaching, 10 am, Convocation Hall and Piano Masterclass, 8 pm, Convocation Hall
Friday, February 1	Performance with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Uri Mayer, conductor, 8 pm, Jubilee Auditorium
Saturday, February 2	Performance with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Uri Mayer, conductor, 8 pm, Jubilee Auditorium
Sunday, February 3	Matinee performance with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra, Uri Mayer, conductor, 2 pm, McLab Theatre
Monday, February 4	Chamber Music Coaching, 10 am, Convocation Hall Piano Masterclass, 8 pm, Convocation Hall

Tickets for the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra performances are available at the ESO Box Office or all BASS outlets. For further information please call 492-0592 for a recorded message.